

AGN. NO. _____

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

MAY 25, 2004

On May 13, 2004, the Daily News reported that 222 red bags, which are designated for medical waste, have been dumped in the Sunshine Canyon landfill in the past 18 months. Many of these bags likely contained only trash, but local inspectors were unable to verify this, because the responsible State Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) staff were only able to respond in person to inspect 11 of them. This same issue came up in 2000.

County and State HHS staff met with the Sunshine Canyon landfill advisory committee last week and are working on a report for the next meeting of the advisory committee. HHS staff have offered to delegate some authority to our County staff, but the implications of this for worker safety and landfill regulation have not been analyzed.

It is important that all parties work together to address this issue.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors direct the Directors of Health Services and Public Health to work with the State Department of Health and Human Services and the County Sanitation District to review the issue and prepare a report to the Board in 30 days, with recommendations for any appropriate changes in policy.

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